

The meeting concluded with a vote of thanks to the Matron and Committee of Charing Cross Hospital for their courtesy in permitting the Matrons' Council to meet at the Hospital, and the meeting then terminated.

Tea was served in an adjoining room by Sister Marshall with the daintiness with which such functions are always arranged at Charing Cross Hospital even in war time, and the members thoroughly enjoyed a chatty reunion.

ANNIE E. HULME,  
Hon. Secretary.

### NATIONAL UNION OF TRAINED NURSES.

The tasteful little N.U.T.N. Quarterly for April is, we regret to learn, the last until better times, when paper and printing will not be the prohibitive price it is at present.

In this issue the most instructive article, by Mr. W. H. Ogilvie, on "Surgical Developments During the War," is concluded, and we have a peep at Miss Thurstan in her new sphere of work on the Macedonian front. She writes: "On February 15th it began to snow, and snowed steadily for three days without stopping. We were nearly up to our waists in it, that is to say, outside the tents, except where we made a path, and we had to discard skirts altogether. Now it is thawing and being very horrible. But the exciting part was last night. I woke up about 2.30 and heard a great scuffle and snarling, and every dog in the camp (there are eight) began yelping and barking. One of the night sisters came along with a lantern, and a big beast turned and tore away up the hill. This was a wolf that had come into the camp, and this morning his tracks were quite clear in the snow round the tents. We know there were wolves quite close to the camp, but this is the first time one has actually come in. They have wolf hunts from a village near here. I suppose it is the cold that has driven them so far down. Of course there are plenty up in the mountains, and bears too."

No doubt both the elements and M. Loup realised that Miss Thurstan would expect them to "play the game," and provide exciting experiences!

In a short and simple statement on State Registration, the *Quarterly* gives sound advice. It states what is true, that "a great many nurses have joined the College under the mistaken impression that if their names were on the College register it was a guarantee for their getting on the State Register, and that if, on the other hand, they did not register with the College at once, they would be obliged to pass an examination.

"This is absolutely misleading. No Bill would be passed by Parliament which does not provide a suitable period of grace during which nurses can register without an examination. Pressure

is being used in and out of training schools to make women join the College. Owing to financial and other influences it is almost impossible to get the other side heard, either in the Press or in Institutions. . . . We consider the so-called Tribute Fund for Nurses a real danger, because it is to provide for the endowment of the College when that College is acting detrimentally to the freedom of working nurses. . . .

"The long and the short of it is that the State Register, with its disciplinary powers, should be managed by an independent body, as in the medical and teaching professions, and that the College could promote harmony and attain effectiveness if it devoted its powers to promoting the Bill on these lines, and to the ample educational work foreshadowed for such a body by Mrs. Fenwick many years ago."

#### ANNUAL MEETING.

The Annual Council Meeting of the N.U.T.N. will be held at 46, Marsham Street, S.W., at 2.30 on Friday, May 3rd.

### THE IRISH NURSES' ASSOCIATION.

A meeting of the Executive Committee was held at the Club-rooms, 34, St. Stephen's Green, Dublin, on the 6th inst. The President, Miss Carson-Rae, was in the Chair.

After the transaction of routine business, seventeen new members were elected.

#### AFFILIATION WITH THE ROYAL BRITISH NURSES' ASSOCIATION.

The proposals were read which were drafted at a Conference between members of the Executive Committee of the Royal British Nurses' Association and Delegates of the Organized Societies of Nurses, and it was unanimously agreed to affiliate with the Royal Chartered Corporation, and Miss Margaret Huxley's name was sent forward to represent the Irish Nurses' Association.

#### NEW REGULATION, DEFENCE OF THE REALM ACT. VENEREAL DISEASE.

The new Regulation (40 C) of the Defence of the Realm Act with regard to Venereal Disease was discussed, and the Committee were unanimous in thinking that impartial treatment for both sexes was absolutely essential, and it was agreed to forward a protest to the Premier (Mr. Lloyd George), to the Secretary of State for War (Lord Derby), and to Major Chapple, in charge of the Nurses' Registration Bill, as the Committee considered the new Clause open to grave abuse.

#### NEW HON. SECRETARY.

Miss Ramsden, Matron of the Rotunda Hospital, consented to act as Hon. Secretary of the I.N.A. The Association will keep politicians informed of its decisions and desires.

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